

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2005**

PRESENT: LAURA BUONO, CHAIRMAN; LEON METHOT, CO-CHAIRMAN; DONNA M. OSBORNE, SELECTMAN; JOSEPH M. FIALA, SELECTMAN

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: ROBERT CHRISTENSEN

RECORDING SECRETARY: Cherry Palmisano

GUESTS: Evelyn Connor, Sherry Butt Dunham, R. Moller, Frank Campana, Leonard Corey, Sylvia Beaupre', Wilbur C. Beaupre', Barbara Hibbard, Mary E. Wilson, David Hibbard, Donna Matheson, Patricia Lovering, Donald Lovering, Carl Knapp, Chief Gregory Begin, Margie Dionne, Laurie Flanders, Ginger Esenwine Forrest Esenwine, Paul Morin, Mary Graves, Douglas Graves

6:00 p.m. Chairman Laura Buono called the meeting to order.

6:00 pm start of meeting with a non public presentation of officers.

Chairman Buono moved, Selectman Fiala seconded to hire Ann Hall as a part-time Police Officer for the Town of Weare. Passed 4-0-0.

Chairman Buono moved, Selectman Fiala seconded to hire Frank Hebert III as a part-time Police Officer for the Town of Weare. Passed 4-0-0.

Evelyn Connor swore in Ann Hall and Frank Hebert III as part-time Police Officers to the Town of Weare.

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Chief Begin presented the needs of the department with regard to police cruisers and the need for them to be more reflective and visible. Chief Begin is not in favor of low profile police vehicles and wants all cruisers marked for the safety of the public and the officers.

Chairman Buono stated that she would like to see the town get on a rotation basis for replacing police vehicles. Chairman Buono feels that an option for now is to purchase a new vehicle outright from the capital reserve fund.

2. DEPARTMENT HEAD – Mr. Carl Knapp had some questions on the Proposed Rules and stated that he has no problem with justifying any money spent from his budget but was concerned with transferring money from one line to another and then having no money in that line in cause of a default budget. Chairman Buono stated that there have been a lot of concerns brought fourth and that the Board will be re-addressing this issue at the next meeting. The Boards goal with the Proposed Rules is to have no surprises in the budget at the end of the year.

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3. DISCUSSION OF GOULD ROAD

Chairman Buono stated that there needs to be an open discussion on Gould Road before they can hold a Public Hearing to close it to thru-trucking.

Carl Knapp understands the residents of Gould Road are concerned with the situation of the possible gravel pit in New Boston and is opposed to an operation in another town having an effect on our residents. Mr. Knapp stated that Gould Road was zoned for commercial/industrial use and it was re-zoned for residential. He is personally not in favor of posting the road no thru-trucking. Chairman Buono stated that they have to look into all options and for other truck routes that are safe.

Mr. Bill Beaupre' questioned the entrance of Short Street onto Route 77 stating that from a safety stand point there is no difference between the turn onto Short Street or Gould Road except that Short Street has no houses on it.

Mr. Jack Dearborn asked why they were discussing Short Street when there is a safe turn in front of Country 3 Corners?

Paul Morin stated that this gravel pit has proposed a loop for their traffic circle with a return trip up north Route 114 and left onto Twin Bridge, but since Twin Bridge has been posted they are considering using Gould Road. Mr. Morin stated that the intersection in front of Country 3 Corners has been identified on the Master Plan as a problem. Chief Begin feels that Short Street is a better option then the intersection in front of Country 3 Corners.

Mrs. Silva Beaupre' addressed the current conditions and safety issues on Gould Road and stated that the proposed use of Gould Road by the New Boston Gravel Pit will over burden an already over burdened road. Mrs. Beaupre' stated that as a taxpayer she doesn't feel they should have to take on the burden of road repair because of the trucks from the gravel pit. There was a letter sent to New Boston that was signed by almost all residents of Gould Road. Speed limit is posted at 35 mph and all residents request police support.

Co-Chairman questioned Mr. Knapp as to the right away being 49 ½ feet. It was stated that the average weight of a gravel truck is 65 tons. Mr. Knapp would like to focus on the issue that there is a proposal of the gravel pit and feels we need to take this problem to New Boston.

Mr. Beaupre' wanted to mention New Boston proposed this and it has been fourth coming on its own and feels that posting Gould Road for no thru-trucking would be the smart thing to do for young families.

Mr. Forrest Esenwine spoke in regards of the gravel pit in New Boston and the fact that New Boston is treating it as a special exception and the issue that this gravel pit needs to re route their traffic out of New Boston. Mr. Esenwine stated that this is not our problem and we need to look out for our town and residents. It is time for this road to be posted for no thru trucking regardless of the gravel pit just because of the growth of that road and the amount of residential housing.

Chairman Buono stated that she knows it is not our problem where this gravel pit reroutes to, but it is our concern that it might still have an effect on the Town of Weare and they have to look at the whole picture.

Ms. Betty Wilson lives on Gould Road and feels that there are more houses on Gould Road then on Twin Bridge Road and that the intersections on both are just as dangerous.

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Mr. Bill Bolton stated that he stood behind the no thru trucking on Twin Bridge Road. Mr. Bolton feels that the situation was different because the intersection of 114 and Twin Bridge was the site of 22 major accidents last year. He was sympathetic to the residents of Gould Road and the trucking issues but wants to make sure that there isn't a strangle hold put on the truckers.

Steve Hebert lives on Gould Road and stated that there is about 8,500 cars going down Route 114 every day and that if you try to add these trucks making a left turn onto Gould Road it will cause a backup and dangerous conditions. Mr. Hebert feels that these trucks should have to stay on the state highways.

Paul Morin feels Mr. Herberts numbers are pretty accurate and that studies are being performed. Mr. Morin stated that the gravel pit is before the ZBA for a special attention and still has to go through New Boston's Planning Board before it is approved.

Mr. Beaupre' doesn't want to lose site that we are looking at the current conditions of Gould Road with the proposed gravel pit aside. They are not asking for no-thru trucking just because of the proposed gravel pit but are truly concerned with the current conditions on Gould Road. Chairman Buono stated that they hear the concerns of the residents and the need for something to be done regardless of the gravel pit.

Mr. Bret Merrill wanted to inform the Board that people from the industrial park would be there if they had known about tonight's meeting. Chairman Buono stated that at this time this is just a discussion not a Public Hearing.

Selectman Fiala stated that ideally if we shut down Gould Road and they have to come up to Country 3 Corners then they will find another solution because of the excess travel. Selectman Fiala feels that it is the job of the Board to protect all the residents of Weare and that there will be ramifications on whether or not the road is closed and the Board needs to research all these issues before they make a decision.

Selectman Osborne feels that we need to keep the communication open between New Boston and Weare and try to work with them for a solution.

Mr. Morin reminded everyone that the Town of New Boston has been very gracious with cooperating with the Town of Weare.

Mr. Dearborn would like to see a member of the Board go down to New Boston's meeting and speak on behalf of the town. Chairman Buono stated that she would be willing to go before the ZBA of New Boston on behalf of the town on April 19th.

Carl Knapp feels we all need to do some homework and go to the meeting together as town officials.

Mr. Knapp and Chief Begin discussed that they would go down to Gould Road together and assess the situation.

Chairman Buono stated that the Board will contact New Boston and have representation at the meeting and the current situation will be readdressed at a later time.

4. CHIEF BEGIN

Chief Begin asked the Board if they would be willing to allow him to carry his weapon.

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Selectman Fiala moved, Selectman Osborne seconded that Chief Begin be allowed to wear a weapon. Passed 4-0-0.

5. MS-2 REVIEW AND SIGN – The Board will sign.

6. INTRODUCTORY DISCUSSION – Chairman Buono asked Selectman Osborne and Selectman Fiala if they have any questions they need answered? The Board had previously decided that the Merrimack County Sheriffs Office would perform the background check on Police Chief Begin, but due to short staffing they would be unable to perform the background check in a timely manner. Chairman Buono stated Dave Crawford will perform the background check and was recommended by Police Standards and Training. Co-Chairman Methot stated that he doesn't want to short change this background check and wants to make sure that the process is done thoroughly. Selectman Fiala stated that he would like to see the background interviews performed face to face not over the phone.

7. MANIFESTS

Chairman Buono moved, Selectman Fiala seconded, to authorize the Board of Selectman to sign Manifest and order the Treasurer to sign checks dated March 24, 2005. Passed 4-0-0.

Accounts payable	\$375,174.74
Gross Payrolls	<u>\$32,079.72</u>
Total	\$407,254.46

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Christensen asked the Board if the Library would need to follow the Proposed Rules. Co-Chairman Methot stated that the Library would be an exception because we only see their bottom line.

Chief Richards is looking at a Fire Ladder Truck and he recognizes that the cap is \$100,000 and he wants the ability to make the deal and wants the authority from the Board. The Board says to go ahead and purchase the Truck.

Mr. Christensen stated that they are moving forward with seeking opinion from legal counsel and the Board agreed that it is time to change town counsel. Co-Chairman stated that they need to look for counsel with strong municipal background.

Co-Chairman Methot moved, Selectman Osborne seconded, for Chief Richards to expend the money to purchase 8 pagers. Passed 4-0-0.

Chairman Buono stated that with all the changes in the Boards and not knowing what individuals hold keys that she would like to see the locks re-keyed at the Town Office Building.

Chairman Buono moved, Co-Chairman Methot seconded, to enter into nonpublic session @ 9:20 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II(a&c). A roll call vote was taken. Co-Chairman Methot - yes; Selectman Osborne - yes; Selectman Fiala - yes; Chairman Buono - yes. Passed 4-0-0.

9. NON PUBLIC SESSION

Co-Chairman Methot moved the Board of Selectmen to enter non-public session at 10:10 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3 II (e). Chairman Buono seconded the motion. A roll call vote

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was taken. Selectman Fiala – yes; Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Kurk – yes; Chairman Buono – yes; Co-Chairman Methot – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Present: Chairman Buono, Co-Chairman Methot, Selectman Kurk, Selectman Osborne, Selectman Fiala and Town Administrator Robert Christensen.

Co-Chairman Methot moved to Board of Selectmen to exit non-public session at 11:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by Chairman Buono and a roll call vote was taken. Selectman Fiala – yes; Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Kurk – yes; Chairman Buono – yes; Co-Chairman Methot – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Buono moved the Board of Selectmen to seal and restrict the minutes of the non-public session pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3 II, Co-Chairman Methot seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. Chairman Buono – yes; Co-Chairman Methot – yes; Selectman Kurk – yes; Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Fiala – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Cherry Palmisano, Recording Secretary